



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## 06/05/2012 Minutes

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP  
 JUNE 5, 2012 MEETING (approved, Sept. 2012)

SPY POND COMMITTEE  
 Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Brad Barber, Bill Eykamp, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob & Harriet Noyes, Steve Ricci, Stroker Rogovin, Dick Terry.  
 Facilitator: Brad Barber Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Aug. 7? (tentative), Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4.  
 Town Hall Annex, first floor.

- The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with one change.
- Weed control meeting on May 16 with Gerry Smith of Aquatic Control Technologies and representatives of DPW, Planning Dept., Board of Health, and Spy Pond Committee:
- Mr. Smith thinks that of the various possible chemicals the "Sonar" that we have been using is the best and most effective for Spy Pond. For this year he recommends spot treatment, which has to be arranged with DPW; Steve will contact Teresa deBenedictis.
- Mr. Smith recommends regular Secchi disk (turbidity) testing all summer, three times a week at least from May through July, to keep ahead of algae blooms. This would require volunteers, who would need to be trained. Bob Noyes volunteered; Steve Ricci can start in September. Bill Eykamp is willing to teach them. An on-line spreadsheet to which each volunteer can add data was suggested.
- Mr. Smith estimates that a plant inventory of the pond would cost \$5-10,000.
- Trails Day (May 12) went very well, with many volunteers. Poison ivy was reported "under control" thanks to Steve Ricci. Some Scouts cleared oriental bittersweet off the fence at the Pleasant Street end, though it will surely regrow. For next year we should coordinate with the A-B Crew and SAVE and choose a date that does not conflict with their activities.
- On May 24 the Arlington Advocate published a long article on Spy Pond, focused mostly on the park, though the reporter also sought input from the Spy Pond Committee chairs. Suggestions for follow-up were made. Jane: an article about all the work of the committee since 1996. Bill: collecting the necessary information and then telling the editor that we have the material for a follow-up story. Brad: an annual report to the Advocate. Each committee member should come to the next meeting with a list of items for a follow-up story. We should try to get it published when we are looking for volunteers, e.g. for Trails Day.
- Miscellany:
- Egg adding: From April 8 through May 16, 76 eggs were added, a few more than last year. Only one gosling has been seen on the pond; there were three at McClennen Park. Spy Pond also has five cygnets.
- Phragmites project: Brad reported that about six pounds of seed have been spread at Kelwyn Manor Park and on the island. More seeding is needed at the park, and more planting is planned: blueberries, Joe-Pye-weed, and tussock grass.
- Other invasive plants: Purple loosestrife around the pond shows signs of being eaten by bugs, probably spreading from the control project at Fresh Pond. Bill Eykamp reported that the bugs used on Eurasian milfoil have shown inconsistent results, and the Dept. of Agriculture has rejected all imported biocontrol for this weed.
- The newly erected gate at the bottom of Hopkins Road is legal, but people who for years have used the path it cuts across retain the right to continue to use that path.
- The Vision 2020 year-end celebration will take place June 19, 6:30 pm, at the Senior Center.